

Hanford Site Proposed Land Conveyance Project

Hanford Advisory Board
November 1, 2012



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Richland
Operations Office

Overview

- Land transfer request
- Hanford Site Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP) designations
- U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) proposed action and Environmental Assessment (EA) area of analysis
- Separate analyses required for potential land conveyance
- Scoping period overview
- Next steps



Land Transfer Request

- May 31, 2011, Tri-City Development Council (TRIDEC), the Hanford Site Community Reuse Organization, requested transfer of 1,341 acres located near the Hanford Site's southern boundary for economic development purposes
- October 13, 2011, TRIDEC amended original request to include 300 acres previously requested for lease by Energy Northwest, for total request of 1,641 acres
- TRIDEC proposal identifies probable uses of warehousing and distribution; research and development; technology manufacturing; food processing and agriculture; and "back office" (i.e. business services)
- Ultimately, TRIDEC plans to transfer ownership to a private entity or to one of its public agency partners (e.g., the City of Richland)

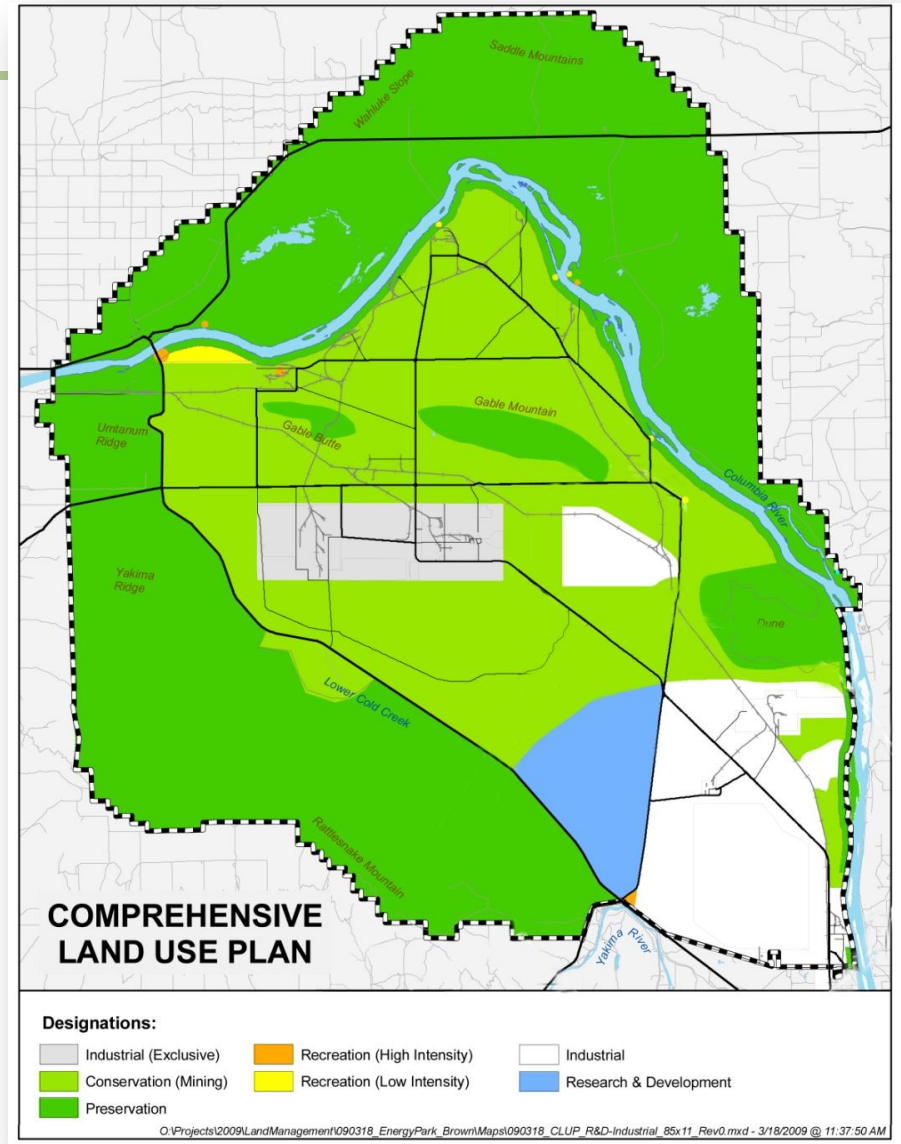


Not to Scale



Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP) Land Designations

- Majority of Hanford Site is designated for conservation and preservation purposes (*Hanford Comprehensive Land Use Plan EIS, September 1999/Record of Decision November 1999; Supplement Analysis June 2008/amended ROD September 2008*)
- The lands requested for transfer are designated for industrial uses
- Lands designated for Industrial uses are intended to support economic development



Separate Analyses Required to Evaluate Land Conveyance

- National Environmental Policy Act
 - Sept 19, 2012 Federal Register Notice Of Intent (NOI) announcing EA process and 30-day public scoping period
 - Develop draft EA documenting existing environment, potential impacts from proposed action, mitigation actions as necessary
 - Hold public comment period on draft EA
 - Finalize EA, decide whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement or issue a Finding of No Significant Impact
- National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)
 - Identify Historic Properties via literature review, field surveys, and during discussions with consulting parties and tribes
 - Consider effects of land conveyance on Historic Properties in consultation with consulting parties and tribes
 - Work with consulting parties and tribes on options to avoid or mitigate adverse effects



Separate Analyses Required to Evaluate Land Conveyance (cont.)

- Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act Section 120 (h)
 - Determine whether hazardous substances are present, status of remediation, mechanisms in place to assure ongoing protection of human health and the environment
 - Early communication with EPA and Washington State
 - Document, as needed, information/requirement in conveyance instrument
- DOE Order 458.1, Radiation Protection of the Public and the Environment
 - Perform historical site assessment
 - Conduct radiological surveys and sampling
 - Evaluate results
 - Independent verification
 - Finalize clearance documents



Environmental Assessment Public Scoping Period Overview

- Scoping period September 19 – October 19, 2012
- DOE notification letters to tribes, federal and state agencies and stakeholder groups
- Notice of Intent, background information posted to Hanford Public Involvement calendar, NEPA website <http://www.hanford.gov/page.cfm/EnvironmentalAssessments>
- Several Hanford listserv postings
- Tri-City Herald public scoping meeting advertisement
- Public scoping meeting October 10
- Scoping comments accepted via email, regular mail, or verbally at public meeting



Environmental Assessment Public Scoping Input Summary

- Fourteen comment letters/emails received, six individuals gave public comments at Oct. 10 scoping meeting
- Major themes included:
 - Both support and opposition regarding the proposed action
 - Concerns that future uses could result in contamination or mobilization of contaminants through land use practices such as irrigation
 - Concern for potential impacts to natural and cultural resources
 - Tribal treaty rights
 - Potential for unrecorded radioactive wastes on the property
 - Opportunity for DOE to receive fair market value of the lands and use proceedings for cleanup or mitigation
 - Both support and opposition regarding the NEPA analysis approach
 - Potential impacts to traffic patterns for Hanford workforce



Next Steps

- Assessing input received during scoping period to factor into NEPA analysis
- Gathering information to develop Existing Environment section of the NEPA document
- Continuing work on environmental due diligence and radiological clearance processes
- Depending upon level of field surveys needed for the NEPA and NHPA processes, draft NEPA document anticipated to be available for public comment during 2013



QUESTIONS?
